



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 4th December 2018.

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR)(Chair), Rachel Lewis (RL) Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY) and Damon Wellman (DW). The Clerk Helen Johnson was in attendance.

Cllr. Bob Standley (ESCC) had sent apologies that he would be late.

218. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – members of the public commented on agenda item 223i.a. A member of the public wished the Parish Council (PC) seasonal greetings.

Cllrs Michael Lunn and Iain Turner joined the meeting at 7:05pm

219. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – none received

220. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - the Chairman declared a personal interest in agenda item 226iv regarding the CAB and Parish Magazine.

221. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 6th November 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

222. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):

Cllr Lunn apologized that he had missed the last few meetings. Cllr Michaelson-Yeates declared a personal interest in agenda item 222i.

i. Planning appeal regarding Gate House Farm – to investigate and report back. Cllr *Lunn* advised that he would provide a written update to Councillors before 20th December. **ML**

ii. Judgment regarding People Over Wind – to investigate and report back. Cllr *Lunn* advised that he would provide a written update to Councillors before 20th December. **ML**

iii. Repair to front ridge board of bus shelter and removal of weeds – Cllr Turner confirmed that he had repaired the roof.

iv. Bonfire Night – Cllr Michaelson-Yeates confirmed that there was a meeting on 10th December and that he would pass on the comments that the PC had received at that time.

v. Emails - Cllrs Michaelson-Yeates & Turner agreed to set up their new emails by 20th December.

JMY & ML

vi. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:

a. Broken Wilderness Wood tourist sign has been reported to ESCC.

b. Invitation to tender for the burial ground and play area grounds maintenance has been sent to contractors, quotes will be discussed at the January meeting.

c. Responses regarding electric light in the telephone box were sent to Councillors.

223. PLANNING:

i. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

a. WD/2018/1359/O – Land lying to the north of Main Road and accessed from Hut Lane, TN22 4HJ – Detached 2 bedroom house on the north boundary and central to the vacant plot – Cllr Michaelson-Yeates confirmed that the tree warden was due to visit the site.

The Parish Council object to the application for the following reasons:

Under the approved Local Plan no trip credits are available for this site;

It is a green-field site;

The current legal access that goes across to the adjoining field on the west side of the site would need to be relocated;

There are 2 oak trees which are protected by TPOs and have shallow roots at the entrance to the site.

(0/4 and 2 abstentions)

b. WD/2018/2277/F – The Stables, 3 Dog Kennel Lane, TN22 4EL – Proposal for 8 roof windows and

repositioning of doors to the south elevation.

The Parish Council object to the application due to the excessive number of windows that will overlook close neighbours. They also feel that the application would excessively change the character and fabric of the building. (0/6)

Cllr Bob Standley (ESCC) joined the meeting at 7:32pm.

ii. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

WD/2018/1542/F – Grey Friars, Wilderness Lane – Demolish garage and form new double storey extension and canopy.

iii. REFUSED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

WD/2018/1719/LB & 1295/F – Coles Hall, Heathfield Road – Construction of single storey glazed orangery extension.

iv. PLANNING MATTERS:

Access in Main Road – the Clerk has contacted Planning Enforcement regarding WD/2015/0877/FR, they have responded regarding the planting. Concern was expressed by Councillors that a vehicle was still partially blocking the road. *The Clerk will write to Planning Enforcement again.* **Clerk**

224. REPORTS FROM CLLR. BOB STANDLEY, ESCC & CLLR. MICHAEL LUNN WDC

- i. Cllr Standley advised that ESCC's Core Offer is now out for consultation. The DCLG minister has visited and the Secretary for the Treasury is due to visit to discuss ESCC's situation. Comprehensive spending review is due next year. Overall ESCC are £20-30 million short, they will balance their books next year however there will be a problem doing this in future years.

Cllr Standley confirmed that he has been investigating Public Space Protection Orders to see if they could be used for Wealden parking, he has met with the Minister of Transport and has written to Nus Ghani MP and copied in the Chief Constable of Sussex Police and has considered various options. He does not want WDC to have Civil Parking Enforcement.

- ii. Cllr Lunn advised that the Kier waste contract is coming to an end and that the new contract is likely to cost more money. He requested that members of the public report missed collections. The opening of the new crematorium has been delayed due to a main gas line which wasn't recorded on utility maps, they hope to open the crematorium in early March.

The period for representations for the Local Plan has now closed, the representations will need to be with the inspector by 24th January 2019.

225. BANK RECONCILIATION: – dated 26th November 2018 was agreed and signed.

226. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- i. Quotes for work at the play area – a discussion was held on the quotes and the PC agreed the contractors for the matting and the path work.
- v. Quotes for tree work – as there were insufficient quotes the *Clerk will write to further contractors.* **Clerk**
- ii. The payment of £600 to N Allen for the website that was paid prior to this meeting was ratified at this meeting.
- iii. Grant requests – concern was expressed that 2 grant requests had only just been received. It was agreed that in future any received after the precept meeting won't be considered for the following year's budget. A discussion was held on all of the grant applications.
- iv. Precept proposals – a discussion was held on the items in the budget headings and how an increase in the precept would affect householders. The Clerk confirmed that the tax base figures had not yet been issued for 2019/20 and once these are received they could reduce the amount owed by each household. It was proposed that a budget for verge cutting should be considered, 4 Councillors signed a document agreeing to reconsider agenda item 181vii, it was agreed that there should be a small budget for the cutting of verges and that *the Clerk contact ESCC to arrange this.* **Clerk**
It was proposed that the budget figure be agreed at £32911 with a precept of £32784. Adjustments to the precept were approved (5/1).

227. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):

- a. Cllr Michaelson-Yeates advised that he had met with a parishioner and given her advice regarding her hedge.
- b. Cllr Lunn expressed concern over the picnic tables, *JMY to visit and advise the Clerk if there is a problem with them in order that a claim can be made against the warranty.* **Clerk**
- c. Cllr Turner advised that he had repaired the roof of the bus shelter and has cut away the clematis that was growing through. He has also taken down the poppies. The PC thanked Cllr Turner for the work he had undertaken.
- d. Cllr Wellman advised that he had attended the Wealden Parish Planning Panel meeting. The flexible approach regarding class Q has now been replaced with RAS 2 and RAS 3.
- e. Cllr Lewis advised that she has spoken with a parishioner regarding their hedge. She confirmed that it was now difficult to report on Village Hall committee meetings as they were held during the day

when she was unavailable.

- f. Cllr Richards advised that she had received correspondence regarding parking in the village and has requested that the Clerk respond.

228. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE – the Chair advised that about 50 people had attended the public meeting. It will be a major planning application for which there is a 13 week process. She has requested that the application be submitted as soon as possible.

229. PLAYING FIELD:

- i. 2nd Deed of Variation – the Clerk updated the meeting on the correspondence from the Solicitor and the options available. Sport England are now requesting a charge over a larger piece of land. It was agreed to instruct the Solicitor to abandon the second Deed of Variation and grant a lease to the Playing Field Trustees of the play area, the *Clerk will respond to the Solicitor.* **Clerk**
It was agreed that if there are any grant requests in the future for the Playing Field or Community Centre Committee that will involve a charge on the land, that the PC will need to be involved before a grant is applied for.
- ii. Signage – c/f.

230. BURIAL GROUND – it was agreed for the *Clerk to obtain a quote for removal of shrubs and trees on plots.* **Clerk**

231. STANDING ORDERS – were approved.

232. DOCUMENT RETENTION & DISPOSAL POLICY – was approved.

233. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT – was approved.

234. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. Consultation on Gatwick Master Plan for sustainable future growth – Cllr Wellman gave a presentation on Gatwick’s Master Plan and explained that they want to increase the number of flights per hour, use the emergency runway as a general runway and safeguard land for a future additional runway. High Weald Councils Aviation Action Group have produced a draft response which the PC agreed to use in their response and to also emphasise that as the village is on a ridge there will be a greater impact. *It was agreed for the Clerk with Cllr Wellman to respond.* **Clerk/DW**
- ii. Correspondence regarding fingerpost - the Clerk advised that she had been contacted by the Clerk from Framfield PC regarding the fingerpost work at the junction of Pounsley Hill and Wilderness Lane, they have agreed to pay £265 towards the cost of the work, the *Clerk will arrange for an invoice to be sent to them.* **Clerk**
- iii. Correspondence regarding bus service had been received from a resident suggesting that the Tunbridge Wells to Brighton no. 28 service be diverted via Hadlow Down, the Clerk had also received correspondence from the Campaign for Better Transport – East Sussex regarding this. The PC agreed for the *Clerk to respond to the representative from the Campaign for Better Transport to advise that the PC will support them in their request to Brighton and Hove Transport.* **Clerk**
- iv. ESCC Core Offer consultation – no response made.
- v. Correspondence from The Claude Jessett Trust Company –a copy of the response from the Claude Jessett Trust Company had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Trust have confirmed that all engines had left the site by noon and that there was no repetitive “tooting” from the steam engines. They have requested details of the complaints and complainants. It was agreed for the *Clerk to respond and to confirm that for Data Protection reasons the PC are unable to provide details of the complainants.* **Clerk**
- vi. Tinkers Lane temporary road closure – the Clerk confirmed that Tinkers Lane would be closed from the junction with Main Road, A272 to the junction with the B2239 Mayfield Flat, 30th – 31st January 930 – 1530.
- vii. Correspondence regarding Community Volunteer Heroes – it was agreed to nominate Bob Lake, *the Clerk and the Chair will complete the form.* **Clerk/SR**
- viii. Correspondence regarding cyclists – the Clerk had been contacted regarding cyclists speeding down the lanes in the middle of the road and with one group hitting out at a car and being abusive, Councillors highlighted other roads where this was an issue. It was suggested that people report issues to the police.

235. CLERK’S MATTERS:

- i. Hours were agreed and signed.

236. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT - The following payments were agreed and cheques were signed:

- i. Helen Johnson. Salary £892.26 includes £28.80 mileage, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £142.26.
- ii. East Sussex Pension Fund £260.29 pension.
- iii. Mrs L. McConachie £40.00 play equipment inspection.
- iv. G.S. Osborne £712.50 grass cutting & emergency tree felling

- . v. BT £171.33 telephone and broadband, paid by direct debit.
Further cheques were signed for Wealden District Council £450 for dog and litter bin emptying, Mr P. Anderson £50 to clean and paint village sign and Printmonger Media £64 for the printing of the newsletter these will all be ratified at the January meeting.
- 237. CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 Section 17** – cyclists and parking had been discussed.
- 238. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY** – the Clerk confirmed that the battery had been checked and that there were no issues.
- 239. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:**
 - i. Aviation Forum
 - ii. Picnic Tables

The meeting closed at 9:05pm